

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004081

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B01L3/00 F04B19/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01L F04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 992 820 A (FARE ET AL) 30 November 1999 (1999-11-30) figures 4,5 column 7, line 43 - column 8, line 32 -----	1-4,12, 13
X	WO 03/027723 A (BURSTEIN TECHNOLOGIES, INC) 3 April 2003 (2003-04-03) figure 5 page 9, line 26 - page 10, line 12 ----- -/--	1-4,12, 13,33-38



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

07. 09. 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 01/66242 A (KNOLL, MEINHARD) 13 September 2001 (2001-09-13) figures 1-17 page 1, lines 1-13 page 3, lines 24-32 page 4, line 4 - page 5, line 27 page 6, lines 1-3 page 6, lines 30-33 page 12, lines 10-21 page 25, line 21 - page 26, line 32 -----</p>	1-4,12, 13
X	<p>US 6 565 727 B1 (SHENDEROV ALEXANDER DAVID) 20 May 2003 (2003-05-20) figures 1-3 column 4, lines 6-67 -----</p>	1-4,12, 13
A	<p>CHIOU P Y ET AL: "Light actuation of liquid by optoelectrowetting" SENSORS AND ACTUATORS A, ELSEVIER SEQUOIA S.A., LAUSANNE, CH, vol. 104, no. 3, 15 May 2003 (2003-05-15), pages 222-228, XP004423404 ISSN: 0924-4247 figure 5 -----</p>	1-4,12, 13

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-4, 12, 13 (and their dependent claims), 33-38

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-4, 12, 13 (and their dependent claims), 33-38

a biochip with means for applying pressure with an expandible element; a method of fluid transfer with the application of light

1.1. claims: 1-4, 12, 13 and their dependent claims

a biochip with means for applying pressure with an expandible element

1.2. claims: 33-38

a method of fluid transfer with the application of light

2. claims: 1, 5-7 and their dependent claims

a biochip with a separating element comprising a membrane or film

3. claims: 1, 8-11 and their dependent claims

a biochip with a separating element comprising a fluid

4. claims: 1, 14-23 and their dependent claims

a biochip with a dormant micro-organism and/or a micro-organism reactivating fluid

5. claims: 1, 24-27 and their dependent claims

a biochip with a cover with one or more perforation

6. claims: 1, 28-30 and their dependent claims

a biochip with a substrate or lower surface of particular material composition

7. claims: 1, 31, 32

a biochip with three of four fluid holding areas containing cells and a fluorescent dye

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004081

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5992820	A	30-11-1999	NONE	
WO 03027723	A	03-04-2003	WO 03027723 A2 US 2003230383 A1	03-04-2003 18-12-2003
WO 0166242	A	13-09-2001	DE 10011022 A1 AU 3927901 A CA 2401518 A1 WO 0166242 A2 EP 1263527 A2 JP 2003525737 T US 2003194716 A1	27-09-2001 17-09-2001 13-09-2001 13-09-2001 11-12-2002 02-09-2003 16-10-2003
US 6565727	B1	20-05-2003	US 2004031688 A1	19-02-2004